



State of Louisiana
Department of Health and Hospitals
Center for Community and Preventive Health

August 1, 2014

Change in Milk Fat Content for WIC Participants

On March 4, 2014, the USDA released the final WIC food package rule which is the final modification to the regulations that Louisiana WIC implemented in 2009. This rule is the outcome of extensive public comments and the experience of State Agencies across the nation in implementing the interim rules.

Effective July 1, 2014 WIC clinics began printing food instruments for the month of October and beyond with 1% or skim milk as the standard issuance for women and children over 24 months of age. USDA regulations prohibit the routine issuance of 2% milk or whole milk for these participants. The final date for the Louisiana WIC program to implement this change is October 1, 2014. Therefore, the change in fat content of milk will be phased in gradually as participants return to WIC clinics for food instrument issuance throughout the summer. It will take approximately three months to fully implement this transition.

Authorized WIC retailers have been informed of the change to the lower fat content of milk. Retailers are not allowed to make any substitutions for items printed on food instruments.